

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. - 9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended): A computer-implemented method performed in a computer-based system comprising the steps of:

a) receiving a path drawn by a user via a stylus as input, the path defining boundaries of a selected on-screen region of a display, wherein pixels comprising one or more graphical elements ~~being~~^{are} displayed in the selected on-screen region;

b) capturing the pixels displayed within the selected on-screen region, and storing the captured ~~image~~ pixels in an image file such that the image file is representative of only those pixels of the display within the selected on-screen region;

c) receiving a user command to annotate the one or more graphical elements and, in response to the user command, receiving an annotation drawn by the user on the display via the stylus; and

d) ~~e)~~—obtaining context information for the one or more graphical elements by automatically applying text recognition to ~~an~~^{the} annotation drawn by the user on the display via the stylus ~~in proximity of the selected on-screen region~~, and storing the results of the text recognition as context information,

wherein the context information is automatically stored in association with the image file.

11. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 10, ~~wherein step e)~~ further comprising: es:

determining a window associated with the selected on-screen region;

retrieving an application interface having a Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) property from the determined window or a parent window of the determined window; and

obtaining the URI property as the additional context information, the additional context information being automatically stored in association with the image file.

12.-14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 10, further comprising:
 creating and storing a linking structure as the association between the image file and the context information.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 15, wherein the linking structure is incorporated in a file separate from the stored image file and the stored context information.

18. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 15, wherein the linking structure includes at least one pointer pointing to the stored image file or the stored context information.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 10, wherein the context information is stored in such a manner as to be accessible to a user for performing at least one of the following:
 searching for said image file,
 displaying the context information simultaneously with the captured image pixels, and
 navigating a network to a source of the captured image pixels.

21. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 10, wherein the one or more graphical elements representing a first set of one or more textual characters, the method further comprising:
 obtaining the additional context information by extracting the first set of one or more textual characters, extracting a second set of textual characters displayed in proximity with the first set, and storing the first and second sets of textual characters as the additional context information, the additional context information being automatically stored in association with the image file.

22. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 10, wherein the selected on-screen region is part of displayed textual region, and the graphical elements comprise a first set of one or more textual characters displayed in the textual region, the method further comprising:

obtaining the additional context information based on a second set of one or more textual characters displayed in the textual region, the additional context information being automatically stored in association with the image file.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 27, 10, wherein the step e) further comprising: es:

digitizing movements of a stylus across the display in order to receive the an annotation; and

obtaining the additional context information based on the received annotation, the additional context information being automatically stored in association with the image file.

25. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 10, wherein the selected on-screen region includes at least a portion of a displayed web page or document, and the step d) method further comprises:

using an application programming interface (API) to query the an application for the additional context information, the additional context information being automatically stored in association with the image file, the queried application causing the one or more graphical elements to be displayed.

26. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 25, wherein the step d) further comprising: es obtaining a uniform resource identifier (URI) of the web page or document as the context information, the URI being obtained as a result of the query using the API.

27. (Currently Amended): A computer-implemented method performed in a stylus-based computer system comprising the steps of:

receiving a path drawn on the display by a user via a stylus, the drawn path defining the boundaries of a selected on-screen region of the display, the selected on-screen region comprising a plurality of pixels;

capturing the plurality of pixels within the boundaries of the on-screen region;

storing the captured pixels as an image file such that the image file is representative of only those pixels of the display within the on-screen region, wherein the content displayed within the on-screen region includes textual data or underlying data comprising at least one of an executable object, a file, and a link to remote content;

automatically determining whether the content displayed within the on-screen region includes textual data;

when the displayed content of the on-screen region is determined to include textual data, automatically extracting a character or word from the textual data as context information;

automatically determining whether the displayed content of the on-screen region includes underlying data comprising at least one of: an executable object, a file, and a link to remote content;

when the displayed content of the on-screen region is determined to include the underlying data, automatically extracting a property of the underlying data as context information, the property comprising at least one of: a file name, a file identifier, a uniform resource locator (URL), a uniform resource identifier (URI), a folder name, and meta-data; and

storing the extracted context information and the additional context information, if any, in association with the image file, such that the context information is accessible when viewing the image file.

28. (Currently Amended): A method performed in a stylus-based computer system comprising the steps of:

receiving a path drawn on the display by a user via a stylus, the drawn path defining the boundaries of a selected on-screen region of the display, the selected on-screen region comprising a plurality of pixels;

capturing the plurality of pixels within the boundaries of the on-screen region;

storing the captured pixels as an image file such that the image file is representative of only those pixels of the display within the on-screen region, wherein the content displayed within the on-screen region includes at least one of: textual data, an executable object, a file, and a link to remote content;

receiving a user command to annotate the content displayed within the on-screen region;

in response to the user command, receiving an annotation drawn on the display by the user via the stylus;

performing text recognition on the annotation to produce recognized text of the annotation as context information;

automatically determining that the content displayed within the on-screen region includes at least one of textual data and underlying data comprising at least one of an executable object, a file, and a link to remote content;

automatically extracting as additional context information at least one of:

a character or word from textual data determined to be included in the on-screen region, and

a property of underlying data determined to be included in the on-screen region, the property comprising at least one of: a file name, a file identifier, a uniform resource locator (URL), a uniform resource identifier (URI), a folder name, and meta-data; and

storing the context information and the additional context information in association with the image file, such that the context information is accessible when viewing the image file.

29. (New): The method of claim 27, wherein

the content of the selected on-screen region includes both textual data and underlying data comprising at least one of: an executable object, a file, and a link to remote content, and

both the extracted property of the underlying data and the extracted character or word are stored in association with the image file.